

FROM THE ARCHIVES (3/9/06)

Earthquakes

A few years ago our TV program was interrupted by a Tsunami warning, resulting from a 7.0 earthquake off the coast of northern California. Fortunately the Tsunami did not occur and the earthquake caused minimal damage. You might recall that the Long Beach earthquake in 1933 destroyed most of the buildings at VHS.

Today in going through some old Oarsman I came across the March 31, 1933 Oarsman with this headline: **EARTHQUAKE EXTRA! TREMBLER TOPICS!** Here are a couple of articles.

TWO WEEKS FORCED VACATION IS ENDED

Seventeen Tents Erected; Bungalows In Use, As Well As Gym and Cafeteria

The late earthquake has transformed our school from a modern and beautiful institution of learning, to 17 tents, wreckage, and three nearly intact, surviving buildings. For the benefit of those unfortunate students who never had the opportunity to attend a country school, tents have been arranged and equipped in such a unique manner that the students will be attending the "little old schoolhouse" and hugging the "old wood stove."

The bolder citizens of Venice High will probably be able to insert their heads through the improvised "windows" and converse with the less fortunate students in classes. The Paris Venice High café lacks only dapper French waiter to make it purely French. All these "improvements" combine to cover the misfortune of the quake and allow students to overshadow danger with mirth. The student body is thus allowed to continue imbibing knowledge and follow their studies.

FACULTY MEMBERS NOT ASTONISHED BY TREMBLER

Flood and Fire Experienced by Misses Abbot, Hatcher, McMurry, and Mr. Hadley

Four of our present undaunted faculty members, namely Miss McMurry, Miss Abbot, Miss Hatcher and Mr. Hadley have seen Venice High devastated on three unforgettable occasions, by flood, by fire and by the recent quake.

The flood occurred in 1914 when the school was situated at the bath house on the canals in Venice. Heavy rain fall caused the overflow of canals covering the entire first floor with several inches of rain and damaging much school property. School was regretfully dismissed for many days.

Again in 1914, just at the time of school opening and before the first building on the present site was completed, disaster reigned supreme on the school grounds in the form of fire. All but a few records saved by Mr. Cree T. Work, the principal, were destroyed and the opening of school, again regretfully, was postponed for two weeks when the first unit of our present plant was finished.